



CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

attractions & historic sites

African-American Heritage Museum, LaPlata; 301.843.0371. A collection of documents and artifacts depicting the life and history of African-Americans who lived in Charles County. By appointment only.

American Indian Cultural Center, Waldorf; 301.372.1932. By appointment only.

LaPlata Train Station, LaPlata; 301.934.8421. This historic building recalls the railroad's impact on Charles County during the growth boom of the late 1800s.

Mattawoman Creek Art Center, Smallwood State Park, Marbury; 301.743.5159. Offers monthly exhibits, illustrated talks and lectures, studio rentals and a gift shop.

Dr. Samuel A. Mudd House (1830), Waldorf; 301.645.6870. Home of the physician who treated John Wilkes Booth leg after fatally shooting President Abraham Lincoln in April 1865. Guided tours and gift shop.

Port Tobacco Courthouse, Port Tobacco; 301.934.4313. This community was once Maryland's second largest seaport and the first county seat. Today visitors can hear docents tell the story of Port Tobacco from 1620 to the present day.

Port Tobacco One-Room School, Port Tobacco; 301.932.6064 or 934.8836. Built in 1876, this school was used until 1953 and enrolled students from grades one through seven. It was restored in the 1990s and is furnished with items from the early time period.

Smallwood Retreat House, Marbury; 301.743.7613. A 628-acre recreational area which includes the restored home of Revolutionary War hero General William Smallwood.

Thomas Stone National Historic Site and Visitors Center, Port Tobacco; 301.392.1776. The plantation called Habredeventure was owned by Thomas Stone, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Both Stone and his wife are buried here. This National Park Service site offers self-guided hiking/birding trails.

our towns

Benedict. During the War of 1812, Benedict was the landing site for 4,500 British troops who marched to the Nation's capital. It again saw action during the Civil War. Today, this sleepy waterfront community offers visitors a variety of fresh seafood at riverside restaurants.

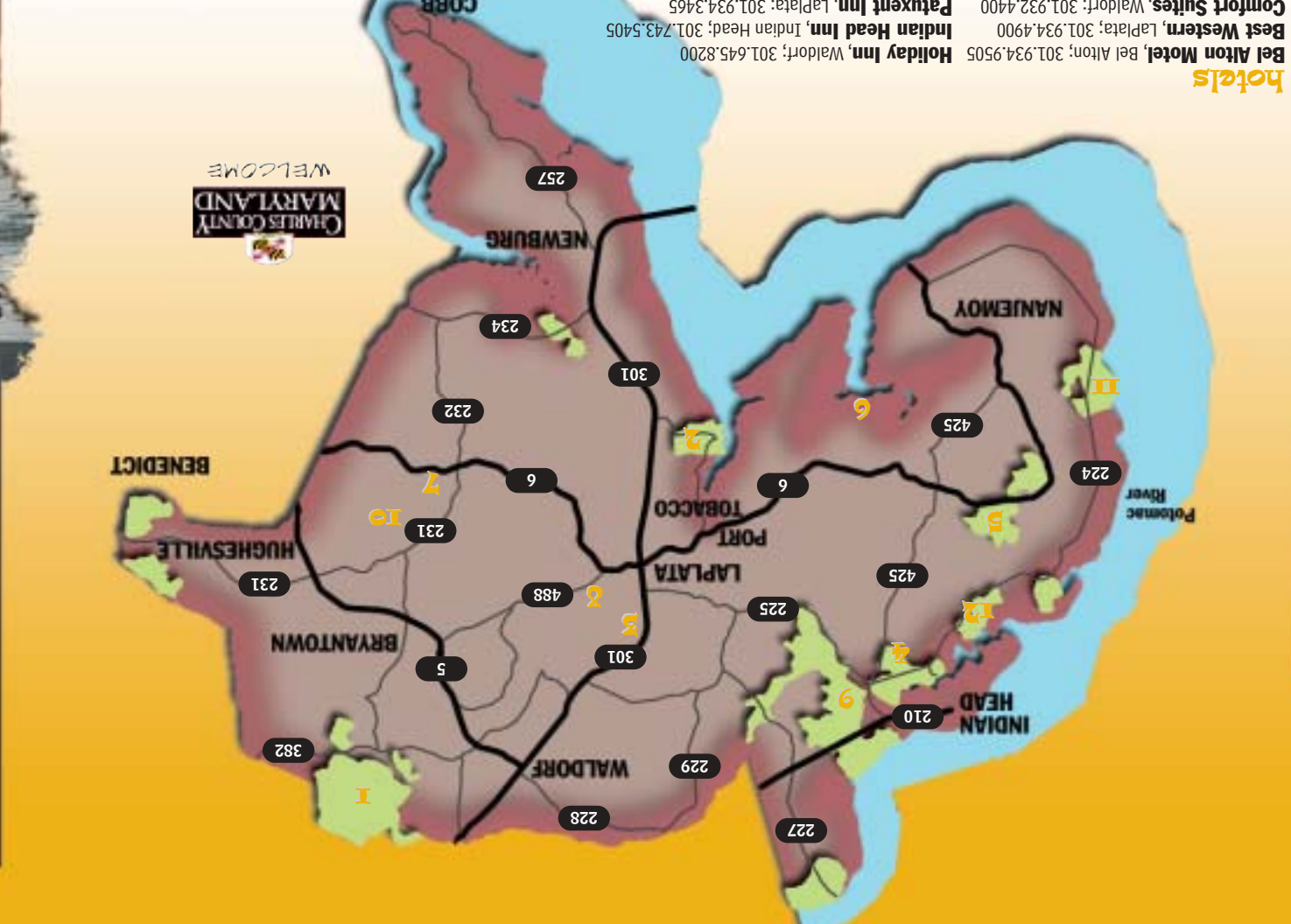
Bryantown Historic District. Bryantown sites include the Old Bryantown Tavern and St. Mary's Catholic Church where the grave of Dr. Samuel A. Mudd can be found in the cemetery.

Cobb Island. Cobb Island offers boaters friendly marinas at the junction of the Potomac and Wicomico Rivers and visitors great seafood at some of the best Southern Maryland crab houses and family restaurants.

Pope's Creek. Once home to a large Native American population, the area was a favorite spot for those illegally crossing the Potomac River into Virginia during the Civil War, including John Wilkes Booth. Today local crab houses dot the shoreline and offer some of the best seafood around.

The Charles County Office of Tourism reserves the right to edit and determine the number of events included in this calendar publication. Information is subject to change. The Charles County Office of Tourism is not responsible for any changes in dates, times, fees or locations of the events published. Please call each event for confirmation. For a complete listing of our 2003 Calendar of Events, visit our web site at www.explorecharles.com.

- 1** Cedarville State Park
2 Charles County Skate Park
3 Chicamuxen WMA
4 Doncaster Forest
5 Friendship Farm Park & Trail
6 Gilbert Run Park
7 Laurel Springs Regional Park
8 Myrtle Grove WMA
9 Oak Ridge Park
10 Pursue State Park
11 Smallwood State Park



- bed and breakfasts**
Shady Oaks of Serenity, Bryantown; 301.932.8864
The Guest Quarters at Mt. Zephyr, Pomfret; 301.375.8832
Linden, LaPlata; 301.934.9003
campgrounds
Aqua Land Campground, Newburg; 301.259.2575
Goose Bay Marina and Campground, Welcome; 301.934.3812
Smallwood State Park, Marbury; 301.743.7613
unique facilities
Loyola Retreat House, Faulkner; 301.870.3515
Melwood Retreat Center, Nanjemoy; 301.870.3215

- hotels**
Bel Alton Motel, Bel Alton; 301.934.9505
Best Western, LaPlata; 301.934.4900
Comfort Suites, Waldorf; 301.932.4400
Days Inn, Waldorf; 301.932.9200
Deluxe Inn, LaPlata; 301.934.1400
Econo Lodge, Waldorf; 301.645.0022
Hampton Inn, Waldorf; 301.632.9600
Indian Head Inn, Indian Head; 301.743.5405
Fatuxent Inn, LaPlata; 301.934.3465
Super 8, Indian Head; 301.753.8100
Super 8, Waldorf; 301.932.8957
Town & Country, Faulkner; 301.934.8252
Waldorf Motel, Waldorf; 301.645.5555

county & state parks

Cedarville State Park, Waldorf; 301.888.1410. Marked trails for hiking, mountain biking and equestrian rides. Camping, hunting, fishing activities also available. Picnic areas and shelters.

Chapel Point State Park, Port Tobacco; 800.784.5380. This scenic 600-acre park offers a small sandy launch area for small boats, canoes and kayaks.

Charles County Skate Park, White Plains; 301.638.5208 or 932.3470. A 15,000 sq. ft. concrete-based skatepark featuring various sized bowls, transitions and a challenging street course.

Chicamuxen Wildlife Management Area, Indian Head; 301.743.5161. Ideal for birders and hikers, this protected 381-acre area offers a wide variety of waterfowl species and almost daily sightings of bald eagles.

Doncaster Forest, Doncaster; 301.934.2282. Perfect for a picnic getaway, this 1,445 acre site is great for hiking or horseback riding.

Friendship Farm Park and Trail, Nanjemoy; 301.932.3470. Scenic marshes abound with wildlife. Designated as a FREE fishing area, anglers are not required to possess a license to fish here. Hiking trail offers two observation areas for birding enthusiasts.

Gilbert Run Park, Dentsville; 301.932.1083 or 932.3470. Scenic, wooded parkland with hiking and nature trails, picnic areas, pavilions and playgrounds. A 60-acre fresh water lake with fishing piers and boat ramp.

Laurel Springs Regional Park, LaPlata; 301.932.3470. Picnic areas and pavilions, playgrounds and athletic fields. A 1.6 mile trail circles the facility.

Myrtle Grove Wildlife Management Area, LaPlata; 301.743.5161. Acres of forests/fields considered a prime location for bird-watching and nature photography.

Oak Ridge Park, Hughesville; 301.932.3470. This park offers equestrian trails and show rings on a first-come, first-served basis, unless special events scheduled. Playground and picnic pavilion available.

Purse State Park, Nanjemoy; 301.743.7613. A 90-acre reserve with moss-covered rock walls and stunted trees located on Wades Bay off the Potomac River, great for fossil hunters.



golf courses

Swan Point Yacht and Country Club, Swan Point; 301.259.4411. Tucked along the banks of the Potomac River, this waterfront club offers an 18-hole championship golf course that has been rated one of the best by Golf Digest.

White Plains Regional Park and Golf Course, White Plains; 301.645.1300. Facilities include an 18-hole golf course, Bermuda fairways, lighted tennis courts, skateboard park, playground and several small picnic pavilions.

historic churches

Christ Church, LaPlata (est. 1692); 301.932.1051. One of the original Episcopal parishes established in 1692. The structure was moved by ox cart to its present location from Port Tobacco.

Christ Church, Durham (est. 1692), Ironsides; 301.743.7099. Stationed by the front gate is a replica of the ancient sundial which in colonial days determined the time of service. This site is a must for history buffs.

Christ Church, Wayside Parish (est. 1692), Wayside; 301.259.4327. Valued possessions at this site include a silver Queen Anne chalice and paten. Other artifacts equally interesting can be found throughout the church.

Mount Carmel Monastery (est. 1790), LaPlata; 301.934.1654. Founded by four Carmelite nuns, this was the Nation's first religious community for women. Two of the original convent buildings have been restored and are open to visitors.

Nanjemoy Baptist Church (1791), Nanjemoy; 301.246.4926. One of the oldest continuous Baptist churches in Maryland.

St. Ignatius Church (est. 1641) and St. Thomas Manor, Chapel Point; 301.934.8245. A place of worship for three centuries, this is the nation's oldest active parish with a continual pastorate. The church and manor house, a residence for priests at Chapel Point for more than 300 years, are located on a 120-foot bluff overlooking the mouth of the Port Tobacco River where it joins with the Potomac.

St. Joseph's Church (est. 1763), Pomfret; 301.609.4670. Set among fields of tobacco and stretches of forest, this church has an undefinable architecture that many consider homespun.

St. Mary's Church (est. 1674), Newport; 301.934.8825. Affectionately referred to as "Our Lady of the Fields" because of the surrounding farms, this was the first Franciscan Catholic church in the colonies.

St. Peter's Church (est. 1700), Waldorf; 301.843.8916. Home of the third Catholic parish established in Charles County.

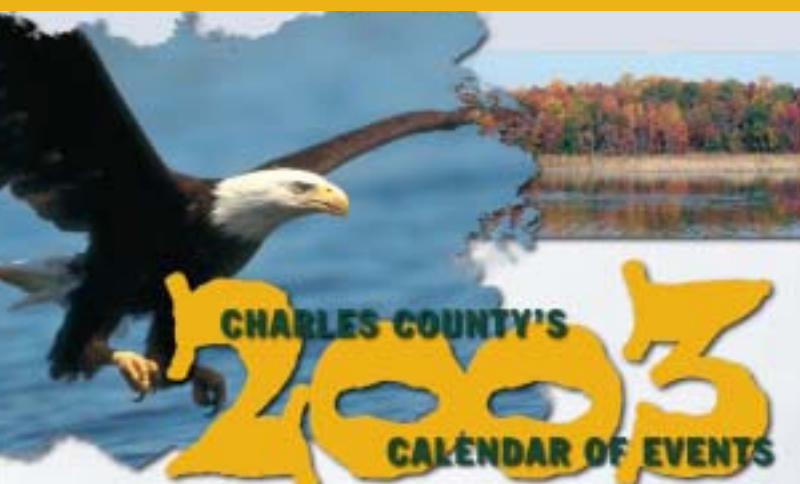
Trinity Church (est. 1744), Newport; 301.934.1424
Oldfields Chapel, Hughesville; 301.274.3796. Trinity Church's Chapel of Ease, which was completed in 1769, is still used today as the regular house of worship. During the War of 1812, Oldfields Chapel was used as a camp-ground for the British troops who marched to our Nation's capital and burned the city. Two soldiers died and are buried in the cemetery that surrounds the church.



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www.ExploreCharlesCoMD.com



january

- 10-2/9 "High School Show"** Mattawoman Creek Art Center, 301.743.5159; mattawomanart.org (FREE)
10-26 "The Foreigner" Port Tobacco Players Live Theater LaPlata, 301.932.6819; ptplayers.com (\$)
12 "Christ Church Concert "Sunrise String Quartet" 4pm. Candlelight concert of fine music and a reception. Christ Church, LaPlata, 301.932.1051 (FREE)
24-26 & 31-2/1 "Sleeping Beauty" presented by CSM Children's Theatre Company. The musical adaptation of the classic fairy tale comes to life on stage. Fri. and Sat. - 8pm; Sun. - 2pm. CSM, LaPlata, 301.934.7828; csm.edu. (\$)
25 "St. Paul's Piney Parish 10th Annual Silent Auction 7-10pm. Silent auction of arts, antiques, vacations, and services accompanied by a wine / cheese reception. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Waldorf, 301.843.6011. (\$)
29-3/2 "Journey: Paintings by Takako Nagai" at Tony Hungerford Memorial Gallery. Mon/Wed - 12-5pm; Tues/Thurs/Fri - 3-30-7pm. Talk with the artist, 12 Noon, February 18. CSM Fine Arts Center, La Plata, 301-934-7828; csm.edu. (FREE)

february

- 7 "US Air Force Chamber Ensemble 8pm." Hear this talented chamber ensemble from Bolling Air Force Base. CSM Theatre, LaPlata, 301.934.7828; csm.edu. (FREE, Ticket required)
9 "Christ Church Concert "The Navy Band Woodwind Chamber Ensemble" 4pm. Candlelight concert of fine music and a reception. Christ Church, LaPlata, 301.932.1051 (FREE)
13 "Billy B: The Natural Science Song & Dance Man! 9:45am Join this songster and storyteller as he entertains preschool-aged children. Great fun for all ages! CSM Theatre, LaPlata, 301.934.7828; csm.edu (\$)
14-3/9 "Danforth and Hutchison" Mattawoman Creek Art Center, 301.743.5159; mattawomanart.org (FREE)**

